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NEW SPECIES OF NORTH AMERICAN COLEOPTERA

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OEDEMERIDAE

Asclera auripilis Van Dyke, new species

Form slender, black beneath, head black, clypeus, terminal segments of maxillary palpi, pronotum, legs and two and a half of the basal antennal segments yellow, the outer antennal segments and elytra of a slaty color, the last also moderately densely clothed with a fine, short and closely appressed somewhat golden pile. Head moderately punctured, depressed in front. Prothorax slightly longer than wide, sides strongly arcuate in front, narrowed behind, disk impressed at middle behind and laterally in front, very finely, rather closely punctured. Elytra finely, densely punctured, the costae distinct. Last ventral segment with sides oblique toward apex in both sexes. Length 6.5 mm., breadth 2 mm.

Holotype male, *allotype* female (Nos. 5508 and 5509, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) and sixteen *paratypes* collected at lower levels, in the SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK, CALIFORNIA, during late May and early June, 1939, by myself.

The four species of the genus *Asclera* found on the Pacific Coast may be separated as follows:

1. Entire insect black or bluish black.....*nigra*
– Insect bicolored2
2. Elytra in great part yellow.....*discolor*
– Elytra entirely black or bluish black.....3
3. Elytra a pronounced black or bluish color with pile hardly noticeable*excavatus*
– Elytra a slaty color with conspicuous though fine golden yellow pile*auripilis*

Of the four species, *auripilis* seems to be the most local. *Asclera nigra* is northern while *discolor* and *excavatus* are more or less widely distributed throughout California.

ELATERIDAE—PLASTOCERINAE

Plastocerus campanulatus Van Dyke, new species

Elongate, subparallel, rufotestaceous, legs and underside a bit lighter, and distinctly clothed with a rather coarse, fulvous pile, depressed on the elytra but suberect on the forebody. Head very coarsely and densely punctured, flattened in front; eyes moderate in size, projecting but little beyond side margin of head; antennae extending backwards as far as apices of hind angles of prothorax, the appendages of the median segments at least five times the length of the segments themselves, and the eleventh segment about equal in length to the appendage of the tenth but more robust. Prothorax broader than long, front margin broadly lobed; sides strongly arcuate in front, at times almost angulate, emarginate posteriorly, the hind angles long, sharp and divergent; disk coarsely and densely, more or less cribrately punctured, the median longitudinal impression well marked. Elytra almost three times as long as broad, slightly narrowed behind, striae distinctly impressed and rather regularly though at times somewhat obscurely punctured, the intervals quite convex. Prosternum rather finely and sparsely punctured with prominent median carina, the propleurae rather densely punctured and the abdomen finely punctured. Length 12 mm., breadth 3 mm.

Holotype male (No. 5510, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) and eleven *paratypes*, all collected by myself near GILMAN HOT SPRINGS, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, June 10, 1941.

This species is related to *amplicollis* Van Dyke and would run close to that in my table for the separation of species (Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., Fourth Ser., Vol. XX, 1932, p. 458). While superficially looking much like *amplicollis*, it differs from it by having less prominent eyes, the median appendages of antennae longer, the sides of prothorax quite evenly arcuate in front, not suddenly explanate, and the elytral striae more deeply impressed.

Plastocerus gracilior Van Dyke, new species

Slender, elongate, piceous above, antennae, legs and underside testaceous, and sparsely clothed with very fine, inconspicuous pile. Head coarsely, deeply punctured, closely in front but well spaced behind, and quite convex; eyes moderately prominent but not hemispherical, the width of pair about equal to two-thirds the distance between the eyes; antennae about reaching hind angles of prothorax, the appendages of the median segments about four times the length of the segments and the eleventh segment about equal in length to the appendages of the tenth and slightly stouter. Prothorax longer than broad, front margin feebly lobed, the sides

slightly arcuate, almost parallel, the hind angles short, divergent and with outer margin carinate; disk smooth and shining, coarsely and discretely punctured and with median longitudinal impression but vaguely indicated posteriorly. Elytra two and two-thirds as long as broad, gradually narrowed posteriorly, striae broadly and feebly impressed and rather coarsely punctured from anterior third to apex, the basal area with the punctures fine and irregularly disposed, the intervals feebly elevated posteriorly and in general finely rugose. Beneath, the prosternum moderately punctured and with well developed carina at center, the propleurae very distinctly but discretely punctured, the abdomen rather finely and regularly punctured. Length 11 mm., breadth 3 mm.

Holotype male (No. 5511, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) a unique collected by myself at VAN HORN, TEXAS, June 24, 1942.

This graceful species because of its shining appearance, more or less cylindrical prothorax, with coarse yet well spaced punctures and contrasting coloration, stands well apart from our California species. Of those described from outside of California, *granti* Schffr. has the antennal appendages shorter; *jeffersonianus* Knull has the head and elytra definitely black and the prothorax broader; while *coronadi* Knull has not only a broader prothorax but it has it densely punctured.

BUPRESTIDAE

Agrilus chalcogaster Van Dyke, new species

Elongate, moderately robust, shining and brilliantly green above with a cupreous sheen about the scutellum and the elytral suture, the head and forebody beneath green with a strong cupreous tint and the legs and abdomen a brilliant copper color. Head rather wide, with sides parallel, the front broadly, deeply longitudinally sulcate, densely, coarsely punctate and rugose and with a patch of white pile behind the epistoma, the epistoma narrow between the antennae, broadly and shallowly emarginate in front, and with the exterior angles right angled; the antennae short, extending back one or two segments beyond anterior prothoracic margin, serrate from the fourth segment with all serrate segments transverse; eyes large, elliptical in outline. Prothorax quite quadrate, the anterior pronotal margin feebly arcuate at middle. Sides very slightly arcuate, almost straight and feebly convergent forwards, the hind margin broadly emarginate at sides and truncate in front of scutellum, the lateral margin carinate with the carinae depressed near front angles and feebly arched behind, vague carinae within hind angles; the disk convex, feebly longitudinally grooved medially, irregularly impressed laterally, with a deep fovea within the hind angles, a pair of minute foveae in front of the

scutellum, the surface densely, coarsely punctured and somewhat rugose. Scutellum depressed at center and smooth and shining. Elytra about three times as long as broad, as broad at base as base of prothorax, with sides somewhat constricted at middle, feebly narrower posteriorly than near base and gradually rounded to apex, each elytron of which is individually rounded and feebly serrulate; the disk convex, without longitudinal costae or sulci, the sutural margin very feebly elevated towards apex, with broad, deep basal impressions and the surface finely, densely punctate—granulose. Beneath, the prosternum coarsely punctate and granulose and sparsely clothed with long, somewhat whitish hairs, the prosternal lobe broad and feeble and truncate at middle, the pleurae finely punctured and decidedly scabrous as is also the abdomen. The abdomen quite convex, with the suture between the first and second segment plainly visible, a dense patch of white pile in a depression at the anterior side margin of all segments, the last segment strongly rounded and the pygidium with well developed carina which is not projecting. The tibiae slender, posterior tarsi shorter than tibiae and tarsal claws cleft, the inner tooth shorter and more robust and but slightly divergent from the outer. Length 8 mm., breadth 2.5 mm.

Holotype (No. 5512, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) a unique female collected by myself in the CAJON PASS, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, June 24, 1941.

This very attractive species is closely related to the Lower Californian, *Agrilus inhabilis* Kerr. (*A. ineptus* Horn), with the true type from Pescadero, Lower California, in the California Academy collection, with which it has been carefully compared. It differs from that, however, not only in its color pattern but by having a broad head with broad frontal sulcus, head narrow and with narrow sulcus in the other, the prothorax quadrate with front margin almost as wide as base and sides almost parallel as against the front margin about two-thirds as wide as base and sides quite convergent forwards, the disk with a feeble median longitudinal impression as against a well marked impression and the side margin sinuous whereas straight in *inhabilis*. As indicated by Fisher, this would also place it close to *pulchellus* and in *Engyaulus* which I would be willing to consider as a sub-genus of *Agrilus*, not a genus. If we recognize categories founded on the minor characters such as define *Engyaulus*, we would have to recognize many another grouping of species particularly as regards the Old World and break down a genus which today stands out with great distinctness.

ANOBIIDAE

Vriletta montana Van Dyke, new species

Elongate, parallel, cylindrical, rufous to rufo-piceous, the appendages and underside lighter in color, and clothed with a very minute, closely appressed pile which gives the surface a faintly sericeous appearance. Antennae of moderate length, the outer segments of funicle serrate, gradually broader and more transverse outwardly, the three terminal segments elongate, parallel, each at least three times as long as broad, the eleventh the narrowest. Prothorax about a fourth broader than long, the sides widely margined and reflexed, and densely, finely punctate—granulose over the whole surface giving it an opaque appearance. Elytra a fourth longer than broad, surface minutely punctate-rugose, the striae well impressed, deepest at sides and finely, rather closely punctured, the intervals convex and more or less regularly elevated. Length 5 mm., breadth 2 mm.

Males generally smaller and narrower, and with the antennae longer, the outer funicular segments more serrate and transverse and the three terminal segments longer and narrower. In this species, the basal segments of the hind tarsi are a bit longer than the following three united.

Holotype male and *allotype* female (Nos. 5513 and 5514, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.), collected by Dr. F. E. Blaisdell at HULVILLE, LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, June 13 and June 18, 1917. Numerous *paratypes* are also designated from our series of 104 specimens, 95 from HULVILLE, others from MURPHYS, CALAVERAS COUNTY, May, 1916, Blaisdell collection, SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK, June 29, and IDYLLWILD, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, June, 1940, Van Dyke collection, and KEEN CAMP, SAN JACINTO Mts., 1937, E. P. Van Duzee collector.

This species in general most closely suggests *expansa* but it is of a more rufous color, more elongate and narrower, with the elytral intervals more evenly elevated than in that and in fact than in any of the other species. The antennae are suggestive of those figured of *murrayi*, figure 13, by Fall in his "Revision of the Ptinidae," but the ninth and tenth segments are narrower and more parallel, in this regard simulating the antennae of *Euvriletta*.

Euvriletta texana Van Dyke, new species

Elongate, cylindrical, three times as long as wide, plumbeous in color and densely clothed with very fine, closely appressed pile of

about the same color. Head finely, rather sparsely punctured and finely granular, with a feeble median longitudinal carina (not always evident); eyes rather large, coarsely faceted, separated by about their own combined width; the antennae of moderate length, the fourth to eighth segments of funicle moderately serrate and of about equal width, the sixth to eighth a bit longer than broad, the eighth the longest, and the three terminal segments long and cylindrical, each about four times as long as broad and a bit narrower than the funicular segments. Prothorax broader than long, very convex, with lateral margin rather broad and reflexed and the disk with a small median carina in front of the scutellum, and densely punctured and granular. Elytra twice as long as broad, as broad at base as prothorax, with sides parallel and evenly rounded at apex, the striae shallowly and somewhat vaguely impressed on disk but well defined laterally, and distinctly though faintly punctured, the intervals flat and minutely rugose. Under surface minutely, densely punctured, rugose, and finely pubescent. Length 6 mm., breadth 2 mm.

Holotype (No. 5515, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.), and two paratypes, collected by myself in the CHISOS MTS., BIG BEND COUNTRY, TEXAS, July 5, 1942.

This species conforms with the generic characters of *Euvrilletta* as given by Fall, particularly as regards the outer funicular segments of the antennae, longer than broad, and the long and narrow terminal segments, and the feebly impressed elytral striae. From *xyletinoides*, the type species and only one previously described, it differs by being of a plumbeous color while the other is ferruginous, proportionately longer and narrower and the elytral striae more faintly impressed.

Xyletinus grossus Van Dyke, new species

Large, robust, form parallel, elytra piceous, head, prothorax, appendages and underside rufous, pile very fine, closely appressed, not dense. Head convex, feebly angulate medially, width between eyes twice diameter of single eye, surface finely, densely punctured; eyes moderately large and prominent; antennae about as long as prothorax is broad, segments third to tenth serrate, the third to eighth gradually longer, the ninth and tenth twice as long as broad and the eleventh narrow, fusiform and somewhat longer than tenth. Terminal segments of palpi subangulate, about one and a half times as long as broad and with inner edge broadly rounded. Prothorax about twice as broad as long, side margin narrowly reflexed in front, more broadly so behind, disk convex, not closely punctured and finely granular. Elytra about twice as long as broad, as broad at base as prothorax, finely striato-punctate,

the intervals feebly convex at most and minutely scabrous, and the general surface somewhat shining as a result of the sparse pubescence. Beneath finely punctured and pubescent, posterior raised margin of metasternum angulate. Length 6 mm., breadth 2.5 mm.

Holotype male, *allotype* female (Nos. 5516 and 5517, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.), and six *paratypes*, the holotype from the GREENHORN MTS., TULARE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, May 7, 1931, as is also one paratype, the allotype and two paratypes from SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK, CALIFORNIA, June 2, 1929, one paratype from IDYLLWILD, SAN JACINTO MTS., CALIFORNIA, June 17, 1941, all collected by myself besides one from MT. HAMILTON, E. S. Ross, collector, and one from the MIAMI RANGER STATION, SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST, CALIFORNIA, May 25, 1938.

The females are in general slightly more robust than the males, with shorter antennae and the outer segments less elongate.

This species is much the largest of our species and can be recognized readily not only by its size but by its bicolored and more or less shining appearance. It should be placed in the first grouping of species according to Fall's key and perhaps at the head of the species.

Xyletinus sequoiae Van Dyke, new species

Moderate in size, robust, form parallel yet rather stubby, rufo-piceous, lighter beneath, and densely clothed with very fine, closely appressed pile which gives the insect a sericeous appearance when viewed in proper light. Head convex, width between eyes about four times diameter of single eye, densely, finely punctured and granular; eyes moderate in size, but not very convex; antennae about as long as greatest length of prothorax, outer funicular segments moderately serrate, of uniform width and about twice as broad as long, segments ninth and tenth serrate and approximately two times as broad as long and terminal segment narrower and fusiform. Terminal segment of palpi triangular but with inner margin broadly rounded. Prothorax broader than long, side margin narrow and reflexed, disk convex and densely punctured and rugose like the head. Elytra over twice as long as broad, as broad at base as prothorax, the striae distinctly, finely impressed and finely punctured, the intervals flattened, finely punctured and rugose. Beneath very finely, somewhat densely punctured and finely pubescent, the posterior raised margin of metasternum arcuate. Length 5 mm., breadth 2.25 mm.

Holotype (No. 5518, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) and one paratype, the first collected at the POTWISHA CAMP, SEQUOIA

NATIONAL PARK, CALIFORNIA, July 16, 1931, the second near the KAWEAH power house, just outside the entrance to Sequoia National Park, July 15, 1930, by F. T. Scott.

This species superficially suggests *harrisi* Fall but is somewhat larger, darker and more opaque and has the sides of the prothorax behind broadly arcuate. It most likely belongs close to it.

LUCANIDAE

Platycerus agassizi pygmaeus Van Dyke, new subspecies

Somewhat similar to typical *agassizi* but generally smaller, shorter, more compact and convex, and of a dark greenish bronze color. Head less than 2 mm. broad, coarsely cribrately punctured and with the punctures to a great extent irregularly anastomosing; antennae short, club about equal in length to funicle, segments nine and ten only as broad as three outer funicular segments are long. Prothorax quite convex, finely, discretely punctured on disk, denser at sides, the margins moderately broad and reflexed but never as broad as they are in typical male *agassizi*, the sides arcuate and gradually wider to posterior third thence suddenly constricted to small right-angled hind angles. Elytra moderately convex, striae very finely impressed except at apex and more or less obliterated towards base, the punctures fine and irregularly disposed, not clearly limited to the striae and intervals as in typical specimens.

Holotype male (No. 5519, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) and numerous designated *paratypes* from a series of fifty-nine specimens, collected at the PYGMY FOREST, a region of stunted forest growing about the remains of an old sphagnum bog in a serpentine area, some four miles east of Mendocino City, and two miles inland from FORT BRAGG, CALIFORNIA, May 21, 1938. This region is a peculiar region as regards its ecology, numerous specialized forms of life being restricted to it.

This somewhat stunted subspecies when seen in series, stands out with great distinctness from specimens of more typical *agassizi* which are to be found in the areas of heavy forest both north and south of it. It appears to be a depauperized or retarded race which shows the lack of fully developed male characters, its antennae and all my specimens are males, being like those of female *agassizi*, not like the antennae with large, expanded clubs of the typical males. Its compact and more convex shape also accentuates the female peculiarities. The legs are, however, those of true males.

CERAMBYCIDAE

Centrodera arida Van Dyke, new species

Elongate, slender and quite delicately formed, rufocastaneous, head and prothorax darker, appendages lighter, the outer part of the antennal segments five to ten, black, and the eleventh with a black area near its apex, the surface sparsely clothed with short, fulvous pile. Head small, closely, finely punctured and rugose, and finely longitudinally impressed at middle; eyes prominent, coarsely faceted and separated above by a distance slightly over one-third the width of the head; antennae slender, reaching beyond apex of elytra, fourth segment barely three times length of second, fifth about equal in length to third and fourth combined. Prothorax as broad as long, finely punctured, narrowed in front and to a lesser degree behind, the disk with a very finely impressed longitudinal line at middle which becomes broader and deeper in front, and very finely, sparsely pubescent. Elytra at base over twice as wide as prothorax and two and a half times as long as broad, sides straight and feebly convergent towards rounded apex, disk moderately coarsely but not deeply punctured towards base and very minutely punctured on apical half and clothed with fine sparse pubescence. Beneath very finely densely punctured and sparsely pubescent. Length 13 mm., breadth 4 mm.

Holotype male (No. 5520 Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.), a unique from the Blaisdell collection of the Academy, collected at DAVIS CREEK, MODOC COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, July 9, 1936.

This species much resembles *Centrodera blaisdelli* Van Dyke as regards its rather light color and delicate form but it differs by being much shorter, by the eyes much more widely separated, the pronotum convex posteriorly and not deeply sulcate medially, shining not opaque, and with the elytra much shorter and much more finely punctured generally. The type of *blaisdelli* is also a male and from the mountains east of San Diego where *arida* is from the semi-arid region east of the main Sierra Nevada Mountains. *Centrodera nevadica* differs by having the pronotum in most specimens deeply sulcate and coarsely rugose and rather densely pilose and the elytra very coarsely and densely punctured basally. It is also much more robust. Our other California species are all much more coarsely and densely pilose.

Since my review of the California species of the genus, I have been able to examine a larger series of *nevadica* and find it quite variable. The best developed have the pronotum broadly, deeply sulcate at the middle and generally with a fine median carina at the bottom of the depression.